

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 21 are presently under appeal. Minor amendments have been made to the claims to correct inaccuracies. The Board is respectfully requested to consider the amended claims in view of the Appellant's Brief submitted herewith.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 14, 15 and 17 – 21 have been amended herein to correct inaccurate dependencies. More specifically, claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 13, which provides proper antecedent basis for the term "said projections". Claim 15 has been amended to properly depend from claim 10. Claims 17, 18, 20 and 21 have been amended to properly depend from claim 16. Claim 19 has been amended to depend from claim 18, which provides proper antecedent basis for the term "said projections".

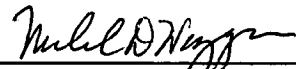
Applicants respectfully note that the present amendment is being filed after final rejection, but before jurisdiction has passed to the Board. Therefore, the present amendment may be entered upon filing of the attached Appellant's Brief (see MPEP §1207). Applicants further note that, although the amendments herein do conform with 37 CFR §1.116, the amendments only require a cursory review by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendments as outlined herein.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 6/7/04



Michael D. Wiggins, Reg. No. 34,754

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

MDW/RPM